

New Hampshire ARCHITECT

JUNE
1952



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New Hampshire Chapter of the American Institute of Architects



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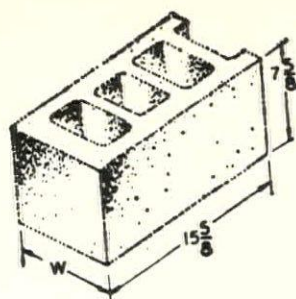
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ON THE COVER

Elmwood Gardens Housing Project, Manchester, N. H.
Photos by Daugela

THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS

The architects in New Hampshire are organized, but they are very loosely organized. Our regular quarterly meetings afford an opportunity for fellowship and discussion of common interests but it becomes progressively more difficult to get our business done.

The next meeting in August being our traditional "fun" meeting, there are only three occasions left during the year for real accomplishment. Living and earning a living seems to get more and more complex and we are permitted to enjoy less and less of the products of our labor. Everyone is in the same fix because an ever increasing share of his earnings or his time have to go to help somebody else who is overburdened with the impediments of modern civilization. Something however must be wrong with the process of distribution, or redistribution, which seems to gobble up just about all of the net proceeds.

This line of thought suggests that some improvement in our organizational set-up might enable us to deal more effectively with professional and routine problems, without sacrificing either good fellowship or educational programs.

It seems to me that meetings of an organization such as the A. I. A. Chapter shall be devoted primarily to (1) Good Fellowship, (2) Educational or Technical Programs, and (3) Major Policy Decisions. This can only be accomplished by a stronger reliance on the Committee System. This in turn requires active and loyal participation by all committee members. If this is not forthcoming then the member should resign from the committee.

Committee chairmen should report to the Executive Committee at each meeting held just prior to the regular Chapter meetings. Important matters can be referred immediately to the Chapter for action. A written summary of the Executive Committee actions should also be mailed promptly to all members and associates.

It will be a function of the new "Committee on Revision of By-Laws to investigate this subject and make recommendations.

Eugene J. Magenan

ARCHITEXTOPICS

By Richard Koehler, A.I.A.

There are few occupations that provide the vantage point of human behavior more than does this profession of architecture.

There is far more than the gathering of sticks and stones to make shelters; it takes people—it takes good people, people who give just a little more than is asked for.

This giving in some cases starts at town meetin' when dog-tired men leave their after-supper chair to persuade their friends with an eloquence born of sincerity and quiet pipe-smokin' thinking—maybe it's the new fangled school, maybe the fixin' of the road up the hollow, in either case he's giving of himself.

Now my sliver-fingered lumberman friend who though pumped full of college "arts" is one of those rare men who really works with his men: the sawyer, the moulder, the teamster—his (the lumberman's) colorful language can on occasion wilt the very ivy on the cloistered college halls he passed through. His teamster's wife had her seventh off-spring, now my friend didn't send a card, a bouquet—no, he personally visited with the family and talked of this and that. The personal interest he shows for his men and their problems is reflected in their "all-out" attitude for him and his product.

I've watched and listened to some of these so-called shrewdskin-flint Yankee bankers successfully connive to save a piece of property for a hard-hit family and hidden beneath the minutes of many a bank board meeting there are "breathers" for men down on their luck.

Meet these people just half-way and sticks and stones won't break your bones—but kick their shins, be coy, rub the fur the other way and you will really have yourself a rough time.

It is this substance of these people that goes into the making of a building. These then are what we know to be "happy jobs."

To the scoffers, the high-'n-mighty, let me recommend that you look more closely to the "spite-mortar-joint," the split putty-filled finish piece and the reciprocal sulkiness of those you "use"—this is not a happy job, this is a solidified slap for your unasked for cussedness.

It is time that the "brickie," the carpenter and others are told when they've done a good job—'coz you can dream, you can make the loveliest set of drawings, but if these fellows are agin you, no amount of opium is going to make your dream come true.

We've all got to row this boat and those that pick the best seats just to ride sooner than not are in for a good soaking.

It is time that matters of building and other things be rid of effeminate finger tip approach; it is time to grip these problems with strong hands and well planted feet. Not alone in union halls, high-brass offices, or seven steps removed from the problem will we solve them, but right down in the bottom of pile is where we will solve them *together* with an appreciation for the sweat and problems of the other fellow.

A Eulogistic Obituary

Architects, like other artists, are temperamental individualists to whom recognition of their accomplishments means as much as or more than financial reward and, with a few conspicuous exceptions, are modest men who hate to employ press agents and shun the advice of W. J. Gilbert:

*"If you wish in the world to advance
And your credit you wish to enhance
You must stir it and stump it
And blow your own trumpet
Or, believe me, you haven't a chance."*

If the achievements of the architects receive the same discussion and recognition that are given to other artists—it would be an eminent stimulus to the culture of the present day.

A eulogistic obituary gives no encouragement or satisfaction to a dead architect.

Architects Should Inform Home Economics Students About Their Profession

Texas Architect

Mrs. Dorothy Weddle, teacher of vocational homemaking at Amherst (Texas) High School, believes that architects are missing a real opportunity by not making information on their profession available to students of home economics. A condensation of an article prepared by Mrs. Weddle on this subject follows:

ARCHITECT IS KEYSTONE

The architect is the keystone in the movement toward a better housed America. It is of primary importance that the architect inform the public of his proper function in the achievement of this goal. How then can the public best be contacted and informed?

One means should certainly be through the women of America.

INSTRUCTORS ARE POWERFUL FORCE

Courses in home economics or homemaking form many of the concepts which American women have concerning home planning and building. Home economics instructors who realize the importance of the architectural functions can therefore be a powerful force in shaping the architectural ideas of America's future homemakers and women citizens of tomorrow.

The home economics teachers of the nation have long had available facts, figures, illustrative material (even free refrigerators supplied by manufacturers) to prove to students the value of, and proper use of refrigeration. They have not had even so much as a leaflet describing the ways in which an architect can save time, money, and disappointments worth far more than his fee.

Here's hoping that the AIA will see fit to remedy this situation, and thereby add to its long list of worthy accomplishments.

NEW ENGLANDERS ARE MAPLES

*"It takes adversity or coming close
To trouble and hard times to make them glow
Then they really flower as swamp maples
Flower on the edge of frost and snow."*

ROBERT P. TRISTRAM COFFIN

: *When You Think of Building . . . Think of an Architect* :

Convention Delegates Elected

Four delegates to the National Convention in New York on June 23-27 were elected at the recent Annual Meeting, as follows:

President—Eugene F. Magenau, Concord.

Secretary—William L. White, Exeter.

Stephen P. Tracy, Nashua.

Alfred T. Granger, Hanover.

The latter two will also be attending concurrently the meeting of the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards.

Chapter growth is reflected in the increase from the three delegates to which we were entitled a year ago (one for every 10 corporate members or fraction thereof). Our present corporate membership stands at 32, and three new applications are being processed, as well as several for associateship and junior associateship.

Delegates to the New England Regional Council are as follows:

President. Eugene F. Magenau, Concord.

Stephen P. Tracy, Nashua.

Archer Hudson, Hanover

Position Openings

The Chief of Engineers, Washington 25, D. C., announces positions as civil, mechanical, electrical, architectural, structural, hydraulic, construction, materials, and soils engineers, and geologists (\$3,410 to \$7,040) and as engineering aides and draftsmen (\$2,950 to \$4,205) on the military construction program in Alaska. A cost of living allowance of 25 per cent of basic salary is paid to employees in Alaska. Government quarters and food are available.

Directorate of Installations, United States Air Force, Washington 25, D. C., announces a position as Special Assistant to the Director of Installations, GS-17, \$13,000 per annum. The requisites for this position, in addition to the usual technical and educational qualifications, are a wide background experience as an engineer, preferably in civil or construction fields, with executive and staff management experience of high level. Additional information

may be obtained by writing or seeing Harold H. Teague, Room 5E-931, The Pentagon.

Department of the Air Force, Washington 25, D. C., announces many openings for all types of engineers at salaries up to \$7,040 for duty in Washington and at installations elsewhere.

Form 57, obtainable at first class post offices and from the Civil Service Commission, should be submitted to the agency listed above.

Information with respect to civilian firms engaged in engineering and construction work abroad which may require engineering personnel will be sent upon request. Foreign areas involved are Central America, South America, West Indies, Canada, Iceland, Europe, Asia, Africa, Pacific Islands, and the Far East.

"A German at August amused me by attacking the discomforts of our fireplaces on the same ground which we commonly make use of in condemnation of their stoves; for in truth, that unaired heat and the smell of the over-heated material of which they are made, gives a head-ache to most people who are not accustomed to it—not to me. But after all, this heat, being even, and constant and wide-spreading, without flame, without smoke, without the wind that because of the openness of our chimneys blows down on us, can in many respects, be favorably compared with ours. Why do we not copy the Roman Architecture? For it is said that in ancient times, fires were not made in the houses but outside them and below them; whence the heat was carried through the whole dwelling by pipes passed between the walls, which circle about the places to be warmed; which I have seen clearly described, I know not where, in Seneca."

Michel de Montaigne about 1580

"We Americans are letting our freedoms slip away. All of us, especially professional people, should start leading the way back to the middle of the road through a greater interest in public affairs."

L. L. DRESSER, P. E.
President N. S. P. E.



New Hampshire Chapter Host to Contractors and Engineers at 4th Annual Meeting

More than 130 architects, contractors and engineers were present at a joint meeting held at the Manchester Country club May 15. Eugene Magenau, president of the N. H. chapter, American Institute of Architects, welcomed the contractors and engineers on behalf of the architects, who acted as hosts.

President Magenau announced the establishment of a scholarship fund for the purpose of assisting students interested in architecture, who desire to attend N. H. colleges or who are N. H. residents.

DISCUSSES ETHICS

H. Q. Thomas of the New Hampshire Society of Engineers discussed the ethics of industry and cautioned the various groups that the success of the construction industry depended upon cooperation.

John O. Morton, acting state highway commissioner, discussed the progress of the 1952 highway construction program and stated that even small maintenance projects were being handled by the contract method. Mr. Morton also thanked the various groups for their assistance in supporting a recent salary increase for engineers employed by the department.

Frank Whitcomb, North Walpole, president of the Associated General Contractors of N. H., described the second joint meeting of the association as a milestone in the progress of the N. H. construction industry and stated that these meetings could result in increased cooperation between architects, contractors and engineers.

The principal speaker was C. P. Street, vice-president of the AGC of America.

: *When You Think of Building . . . Think of an Architect* :

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Revision of By-Laws

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*Those newly appointed by the Executive Committee at its Organizational Meeting on May 26, 1952.



Architects Business Meeting-
President Magenau Presiding



Head Table



Group Picture of Banquet

Elmwood Gardens Housing Project

Manchester, N. H.

For the Manchester Housing Authority

SEN. THOMAS B. O'MALLEY, *Chairman*

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Atty. JOHN R. McLANE, JR.

M. H. A. Director, LEO RIEL

Elmwood Gardens now nearing completion, built under the provisions of the Public Housing Administration, is composed of 42 buildings containing 12 one bedroom units, 78 two bedroom units, 84 three bedroom units, 20 four bedroom units, and 6 five bedroom units.

The one and two story garden type apartment is an intermediate between two or three story flats and detached or semi-detached houses. Garden apartments of this type have a number of advantages characteristic of the detached house: indoor and outdoor privacy, through ventilation, opportunity for favorable orientation for sun and breezes, and private entrances. They have the additional advantages

of lower cost of the structure, lower cost of utilities and more efficient use of land. The construction cost of the project was within the preliminary estimates and within the allowable costs set up by P. H. A.

The layout of the project enabled the central heating plant with all mechanical equipment and controls to be confined to one boiler plant, located at the East side of the project. The heating system, a forced hot water system with fully automatic temperature control of the water and temperature.

Radiation is copper convactor type with units located in each room of the buildings and fitted with manual control valves to al-

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low occupant to moduate temperature or shut off the heat if desired.

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Arthur J. Nakos, Nashua.

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Dan Kiley, Burlington, Vt.

(Continued on Page 14)

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VIEWS OF ELMWOOD
GARDENS HOUSING
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Story on Page 10





Elmwood Gardens

(Continued from Page 11)

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(Continued on Page 16)

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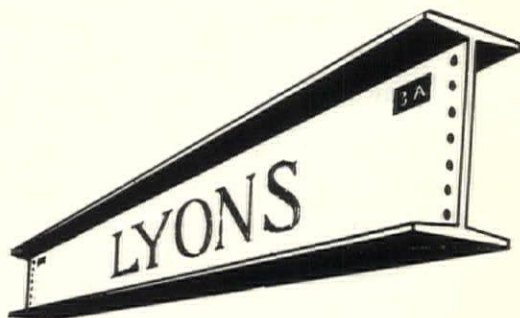
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Elmwood Gardens

(Continued from Page 14)

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Examination for Registration of Architects

The written examination for registration of architects was held at Kingsbury Hall, University of New Hampshire on May 26-29 inclusive.

The states of Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont conducted the examination jointly thus, enabling applicants to secure registration in these New England states without further written exams.

God gives every bird its food, but does not throw it into the nest.

Anon

When men speak ill of thee, live so as nobody may believe them.

Plato

Men are like wines, age souring the bad, and bettering the good.

Cicero



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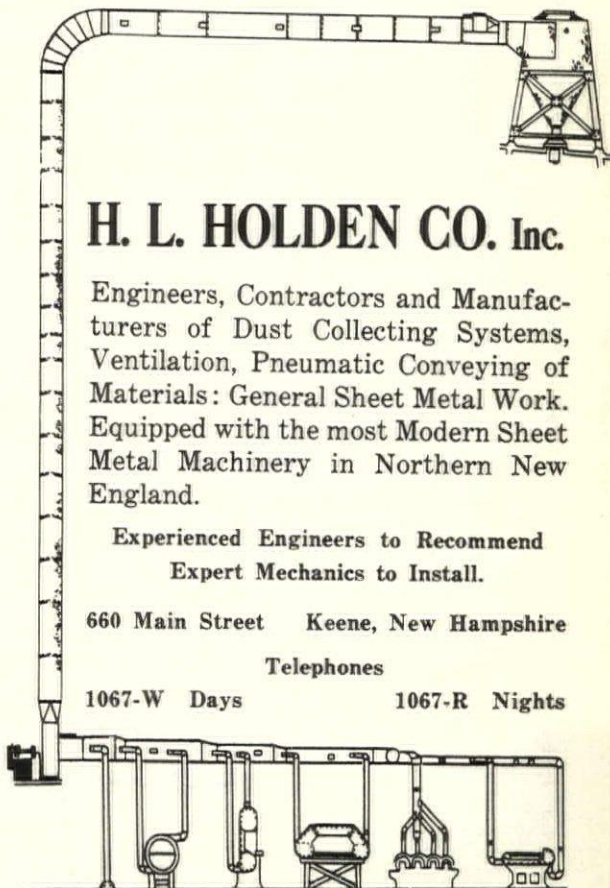
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You live in a house, you work in a building, you enjoy an hour of relaxation in a theater; wherever the orbit of your life runs you are, if you consider it, framed and buttressed by the hand of the architect. To the setting of your daily activities some architect has given of his skill and imagination in order to make that environment suitable and pleasant for you to do the special task you have to do in it. Wherever you go, wherever you look, be it in the great city or through the quiet countryside, you cannot escape his impress. He is, for good or bad, ubiquitous; his performance inescapable to the order and comfort of your living.

How necessary is it then in contemplating the construction of a building to choose a good architect, to recognize the indispensable ingredients that make for goodness.

H. DALAND CHANDLER, F. A. I. P.

John D. Betley,
Manchester

Alfred T. Granger Associates,
Hanover

Hudson and Ingram,
Hanover

Koehler and Isaak,
Manchester

Anderson-Nichols and Company
Concord

Orcutt and Marston,
Hanover

Edward Benton Miles,
Exeter

Carl E. Peterson,
Manchester

Leo P. Provost
Manchester

Norman P. Randlett,
Laconia

Tracy and Hildreth,
Nashua

William L. White,
Exeter

Maurice E. Witmer,
Portsmouth

Each of the above firms has one or more members in the

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